Free to be Slaves Summary and Questions

This sermon explores the paradox of Christian freedom through Romans 6, emphasizing that believers are "free to be slaves." The pastor explains that all humans are born under God's law—a righteous standard we cannot meet through our own efforts. Satan's original deception was convincing humanity that submission to God equals slavery while rebellion equals freedom, when the opposite is true. Through Jesus Christ, who perfectly kept the law and died in our place, believers are set free from the condemnation of sin and brought under grace rather than law. However, this freedom isn't license to sin—it's freedom to become slaves to righteousness instead of slaves to sin. The sermon emphasizes that we must choose our master: sin leading to death, or God leading to life. Unlike earthly masters, God is compassionate, loving, and gives eternal life as a gift rather than wages. As God's slaves, we paradoxically receive the status of children and experience true freedom.

Discussion Questions

1. How does understanding that "freedom in rebellion is actually slavery" challenge our culture's definition of freedom? Where do you see this deception at work today?

2. The sermon states we can't "lower the bar" of God's holiness or "jump higher" through our own efforts. How does this reality change the way you approach your relationship with God?

3. Paul asks, "Shall we sin because we are under grace?" Why is this a tempting question, and what does the passage teach us about continuing to pursue holiness after salvation?

4. What are the practical differences between being a "slave to sin" versus a "slave to righteousness" in everyday life? Can you identify specific areas where this choice plays out?

5. The sermon describes God as a master who washes servants' feet, pays their debts, and throws parties when they return. How does this picture of God as master differ from other authority figures in your life?

6. How does viewing yourself as both a "slave" and a "child" of God affect your understanding of obedience and relationship with Him?

7. Eternal life is described as a "gift" rather than "wages." What's the significance of this distinction, and how should it shape our service to God?